Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/07/27 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600050089-9

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 16 December 1953

SUBJECT Mine and Torpedo Testing Areas in the Caspian Sea

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

DATE OF I

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

25X1

southwest of Nargen Island and about 10 kilometers south-southwest of Baku is an area of the Caspian Sea occupying about 15 square kilometers flush with the shore. This area is located outside the limits of Baku Bay. There are leading marks on the shore in the vicinity of this area. tests of mines and torpedoes were being carried on in this area up until 1951. In addition, this area was declared "area closed to navigation". Once, when examining charts of the Caspian Sea at the Marine Inspectorate of the "Reydtanker" Shipping Company, there was a section marked off with dash lines together with a pencilled notation "area closed to navigation" ("zapretnyy dlya plavaniya rayon") in this area on the map. Since this was a working chart, the notation was apparently made by the head of the Marine Inspectorate in 1951.

25X1

During the winter of 1949-1950 there were such low temperatures in the Caspian Sea that the Krasnovodsk port froze over. Since the "Kasptanker" and "Kaspflot" shipping companies have no ice-breakers, the M/S "Bogatyr'" of the "Reydtanker" Shipping Company was sent to Krasnovodsk.

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

DISTRIBUTION

Navy ONLY

25X1

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/07/27 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600050089-9

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/07/27 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600050089-9

25X1

[redacted] tests of torpedoes or mines [redacted] were being carried out on the east coast of the Caspian Sea. En route to Krasnovodsk and on the return trip, [redacted] to detour around an area closed to navigation. In this connection it should be taken into consideration that "Reydtanker" Shipping Company vessels proceed along the eastern shore of the Caspian Sea in making the trip from Astrakhan to Krasnovodsk. (Astrakhan-14' Sea Roadstead-Fort Shevchenko-Nizhni Tyub-Karaganskiy Lighthouse-Tokmakskiy Lighthouse-Kuuli Lighthouse-Krasnovodskiy Floating Reception Lighthouse).

25X1 25X1 25X1 25X1

[redacted] the shipping company's chief of the Marine Inspectorate who failed to give [redacted] the coordinates of the area closed to navigation [redacted]

[redacted] there was an area far south of the Kuuli Lighthouse where the Caspian Flotilla periodically held training maneuvers [redacted] the area was located about 12 Kilometers south of the Kuuli Lighthouse near the beach. [redacted] it was not more than five kilometers long.

25X1 25X1

Kuuli Lighthouse has an intermittantly-flashing white light, with eight seconds between flashes, visible at a distance of about 15 miles. The lighthouse is a round iron tower, about 48 meters high, on a stone foundation. The tower itself is supported by slanting metal skeleton girders.

[redacted]

- end -

25X1

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/07/27 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600050089-9